U. S. FOREST SERVICE

RESEARCH NOTE LS-8

KE STATES FOREST EXPERIMENT STATION • U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

1962 Forest Tree Seed Crop Averages Fair in the Lake States

The 1962 forest tree seed crop in general was below that of 1960 but otherwise better than for any other year since 1955, according to observations made at field centers of the Lake States Forest Experiment Station (see table on reverse side). Although one or more species had crop failures in each locality reported upon, crops for most species were fair to good. Compared to 1961, seed production was better in every locality but North Dakota. On the average, production was best in northern Minnesota and diminished steadily to the east.

In northern Minnesota quaking aspen and northern white-cedar produced bumper crops. Most other species had fair to good crops except for eastern white pine and yellow birch (poor) and red pine, bur oak, and northern pin oak (failure).

Fair to good crops prevailed for most species in northeastern Wisconsin, but that of white pine was poor and those of red pine, white ash, and black ash were failures.

In central Upper Michigan all species had fair to good crops except eastern hemlock, sugar maple, yellow birch, and black ash, which had crop failures.

The only conifers to produce fair to good crops in Lower Michigan were jack pine, eastern hemlock, and northern white-cedar. Crops of all others were poor or failures. Many deciduous species also had seed crops that failed or were poor. Exceptions were the aspens, white oak, northern red oak, black oak (in the southern half), shagbark hickory, black walnut, butternut, and black cherry (most of which had good crops) and American elm which had a bumper crop in the south half of the Peninsula (it was poor in the north half).

In north-central North Dakota all species had fair to good seed crops except Siberian elm and green ash (poor) and hackberry and bur oak (failure). This is the fifth successive year that the hackberry seed crop has failed.

Most tree seed collectors are interested chiefly in the pines and spruces. For the pines 1962 generally was poor to fair. For the spruces, it was fair to good except in Lower Michigan (poor). Mast production of value to some wildlife species was generally fair to good, except in some localities of Lower Michigan where it was poor.

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MAINTAINED AT ST. PAUL 1, MINNESOTA, IN COOPERATION WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

TABLE 1. — *Forest tree seed crops in the Lake States, 1962*

Species	Estimated percentage of a full crop[1] in —				
	Northern Minnesota	Northeastern Wisconsin	Central Upper Michigan	Lower Peninsula Michigan	North-central North Dakota
Red pine	7	7	50	7	[2] --
Eastern white pine	25	25	50	7	--
Jack pine	50	50	--	50	--
Ponderosa pine	--	--	--	--	75
White spruce	75	50	50	25	--
Black spruce	75	50	75	25	--
Balsam fir	75	75	75	25	--
Eastern hemlock	--	75	7	50	--
Northern white-cedar	95	75	50	75	--
Tamarack	50	--	--	25	--
Sugar maple	50	50	7	7	--
Red maple	--	75	75	25	--
Boxelder	--	--	--	--	50
American beech	--	--	75	7	--
Basswood	75	75	50	25	--
Yellow birch	25	75	7	--	--
Paper birch	75	75	--	25	--
Eastern hophornbeam	--	--	--	25	--
Quaking aspen	95	75	--	75	--
Bigtooth aspen	75	50	--	75	--
Balsam poplar	75	--	--	--	--
American elm	--	75	75	[4]25--[3]95	50
Siberian elm	--	--	--	--	25
Hackberry	--	--	--	--	7
White ash	--	7	--	7	--
Green ash	--	--	--	--	25
Black ash	--	7	7	--	--
Bur oak	7	--	--	--	7
White oak	--	--	--	[3]50--[4]75	--
Black oak	--	--	--	[4]25--[3]75	--
Northern pin oak	7	--	--	25	--
Northern red oak	50	50	75	[4]50--[3]75	--
Shagbark hickory	--	--	--	75	--
Black walnut	--	--	--	75	--
Butternut	--	--	--	75	--
Black cherry	--	--	--	50	--
Chokecherry	--	--	--	--	75
American plum	--	--	--	--	50
Russian-olive	--	--	--	--	75
Caragana	--	--	--	--	50

[1] *Percentage of a full crop classified as 0-15, failure; 16-35, poor; 36-60, fair; 61-90, good; and 91-100, bumper.*

[2] *A dash (--) signifies no report on this species.*

[3] *Southern half of Lower Peninsula.*

[4] *Northern half of Lower Peninsula.*